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*Jeffrey M. Nelson*  
*Chief Legal Officer*

March 8, 2019

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

Jocelyn G. Boyd, Esquire  
Chief Clerk & Administrator  
Public Service Commission of South Carolina  
101 Executive Center Drive, Suite 100  
Columbia, South Carolina 29210

RE:               ORS Report Regarding Status of Settlement Negotiations pursuant to Order 2019-12-H

**Docket No. 2019-45-E**

Dear Ms. Boyd:

Please allow this letter to serve as the Office of Regulatory Staff's ("ORS") report regarding efforts in settlement negotiations between Deborah Stagers ("Consumer") and Duke Energy Progress, LLC ("DEP").

On February 11, 2019, ORS contacted DEP to discuss Ms. Stagers' account. DEP offered a Deferred Payment Arrangement ("DPA") to Ms. Stagers. That same day, ORS e-mailed Ms. Stagers the terms of the DPA.

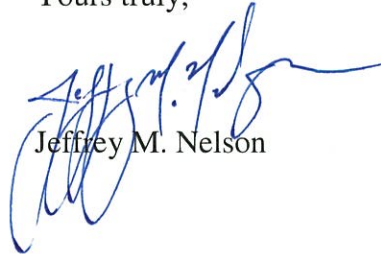
On February 12, 2019, ORS contacted Ms. Stagers via telephone to confirm receipt of the e-mail containing the DPA terms and Ms. Stagers verified receipt of the DPA offer. However, Ms. Stagers indicated she was unable to commit to the terms of the DPA at this time, as she was meeting with local community action agencies for financial assistance. Ms. Stagers advised she would keep ORS informed of her efforts to secure agency assistance.

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On February 19, 2019, ORS attempted to contact Ms. Stagers and left a voicemail message regarding her efforts to secure agency assistance and to discuss payment arrangements for her account. A similar voicemail was left on February 28, 2019. On March 5, 2019, Ms. Stagers contacted ORS to advise she had an appointment on March 6, 2019, with Pee Dee Community Action to discuss financial assistance for her DEP account. On March 6 and 7, 2019, ORS again contacted Ms. Stagers and left voicemail messages regarding her efforts to secure agency assistance and to discuss payment arrangements for her account. Ms. Stagers has not contacted ORS to discuss her appointment for financial assistance or to set up payment arrangements for her account.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey M. Nelson", is written over the typed name.

Jeffrey M. Nelson

cc: Joseph Melchers, Esquire (via E-mail)  
All Parties of Record (via E-mail)